Approval for mining in Mayurbhanj

4194. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state: .

(a) whether the Ministry has given any approval for mining of iron-ores during last three years in district Mayurbhanj;

(b) if so, how many companies have got such approval alongwith the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether at present any proposal is pending with Government for consideration, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government for grant of mining lease for iron-ore in district Mayurbhanj is pending in the Ministry of Mines at present.

Iron-ore and coal mines and private companies

†4195. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for granting iron-ore and coal mines to the private steel and power companies;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that these companies will not be allowed to sell their products in the open market;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that iron-ore rich States like Orissa and Jharkhand have put forth a demand that they will grant mining leases only to those companies which will be setting up of their plants within the boundary of the State; and

(e) if so, the deicison taken by Government in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulations) Act, 1957, the State Government with prior approval of the Central Government, grant iron-ore mines to an Indian national or a company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973, as amended from time to time, allows captive mining of coal by private Indian companies for use in power generation, iron and steel manufacture and cement production.

(b) and (c) Iron-ore produced can be sold in the open market. As per available information, coal produced from a captive block if rendered surplus or in excess of the requirement due to any contingency or force majeure situation is allowed to be sold to another approved and used with prior approval of the Central Government.

(d) and (e) State Government of Jharkhand and Orissa have sought to give preference to such applications for mining leases who are willing to set up and use industry within the boundary of the State and this issue is under consideration of the Government.

Grants given by Maulana Azad Education Foundation

4196. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of applications received by the Maulana Azad Education Foundation for grants etc. during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the applications accepted and rejected during the above period, year-wise;

(c) the ground of rejection in each case; and

(d) the oldest case pending as on date alongwith the reasons for pendency and the earliest case cleared alongwith the ground for undue promptness?